



PROPOSED BILL 5299

Public Health Committee: Public Hearing: 2/20/13

PLEASE SUPPORT PB 5299 -- AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION FOR THE USE OF ANTIEPILEPTIC MEDICATIONS IN SCHOOL SETTINGS.

The Connecticut Center for Patient Safety is a not-for-profit, member-driven organization that advocates for improved healthcare delivery systems and procedures for Connecticut consumers.

The stated purpose of PB 5299 is: *To facilitate prompt medicinal response to an epileptic seizure to certain children attending public and nonpublic schools in the event that a qualified school nurse is not present to administer the required medication in a timely manner by authorizing a trained unlicensed surrogate to administer the medication.*

We support this bill. We believe that all school children should have the opportunity at any time to receive medications – that could potentially save their lives—even if they are not able to get to a hospital or to a licensed medical professional. It is really sad if a child has to suffer harm by virtue of the fact that a licensed medical professional is not available at that time to help the child.

We hope that when this proposal is fully-drafted, there will be sufficient protections and guidelines placed into the bill to require that “the unlicensed trained surrogate” will be sufficiently prepared to administer the medication in the safest possible way.

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